



## **Tribal Council Resolutions for Month of August 1998**

- #32-98** Adopts the Student Aid Program Booklet
- #33-98** Approves an agreement with CLECO for Highway 182 Improvements.
- #34-98** Approves an agreement with Guidry Construction Co., Inc. for a force main pipeline.
- #35-98** Approves BEO Contractors to do the renovations to the old Charenton School so it can be used as the Tribal Courts Building.
- #36-98** Approves submission of a grant application to HUD for a child care center on the Reservation.

---

### **Child Search**

**By Lee Ann LeBlanc**

If you know of nay handicapped individuals between the ages of birth to 21 years of age who are not receiving educational services, contact Lee Ann LeBlanc, Special Education Teacher or Ms. Dorothy Thompson, Principal at the Chitimacha Tribal School, 923-9960.

#### *What is a good reason to call?*

A child may have:

- a very low birth weight
- a genetic condition
- dropped out of school

A child may have trouble:

- talking
- seeing
- hearing
- moving
- thinking

#### *What happens next?*

With the consent of the parent(s), the Tribal School system will arrange for a complete evaluation. If the individual is handicapped and in need of special services, the parent(s) and the local school system personnel will make decisions together, taking into account the age and the needs of the individual in order to provide a free, appropriate education for Native Americans.

## **"Kop's Korner"**

**News from the Chitimacha Police Department  
Frank McCloskey, Police Chief**



### **AUGUST 1998**

The following traffic citations were issued for the month of August: 11 Speeding, 1 No License Plate, 2 No Insurance, 1 Improper Display of License Plate, and 1 No Drivers License.

No arrests were logged for the month of August.

### **NEW PHONE SCAM**

Newest phone scam: If you get a call from someone who says he's an AT&T technician running a test on your phones, beware. The scam works like this. He says that to complete the test, you should punch in 9, 0 and then the # button, then hang up. If you push 90#, you give the person on the other end access to your telephone line which allows them to place a long distance telephone call anywhere in the world on your nickel. *Guess who's pulling most of these scams?* Inmates in jails and prisons around the country.

**The following article is submitted by Ellen Hebert. It was written by Eric W. Johnson, a police officer in Louisville, KY.**

### **WE'RE MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN WE REALIZE**

A man approached a police officer in a convenience store recently and said, "I want to shake your hand." While the man seemed vaguely familiar, the officer was unsure if he was friend or foe. Nevertheless, he cautiously extended his hand. "You changed my life," he said. Having been told on more than one occasion by someone under arrest that he was changing his life or, more specifically, ruining his life, the officer was apprehensive. Then the man told him his story.

The officer had arrested him a few years earlier for his third drunk driving charge. During the arrest the man was very belligerent and verbally abusive. Yet, in the midst of it all, the officer had asked, "Why are you doing this?" He told the man that even though he had made some poor choices that evening, he believed the man was "better than this."

As the suspect sat in his jail cell that night, he could not stop thinking about how he had been treated and the things that had been said to him. He could not understand how someone could still be so

respectful while arresting him for such a careless and dangerous offense, especially while he was being so abusive in return. But above all, he could not understand why someone who did not know him believed in him more than he believed in himself.

After a long night of introspection, the man decided he really was "better than this." He also decided he would never see the inside of a jail cell again.

Since then the man has kept his pledge as well as another one of sobriety. A reunion with his estranged wife and the starting of a new business followed shortly after the arrest. "Now", he said, "life could not get any better."

While each of us who enter law enforcement do so for a different set of personal reasons, there is a common thread that runs through us all. I believe it is a desire to help others and to make the world a better place. Admittedly, few of us believe we can actually change the world. But most of us believe we can make differences in at least some situations. And as police officers, we know we have several such opportunities every day.

Unfortunately, no matter how hard we try we are frequently frustrated. But as this story illustrates, we are often more successful than we realize.

In fact, we routinely affect lives in positive ways we never learn of--sometimes even the lives of people we

never have contact with directly, such as the spouse and family members of the man in this story. Consider the many lives that have been inspired by the influence or example of a "neighborhood cop." Success stories about people who grew up in impoverished areas or in families without positive role models. Some people say the encouragement of a police officer was the inspiration that helped them overcome adversity. Some even became police officers themselves. However, it is not uncommon that the officer who was the source of inspiration never learned of the role he played.

A good analogy of the effects of our actions is to compare them to the effects of pebbles dropping into water. Regardless of how big or small, or how good or bad, our actions create effects-or ripples-that radiate outward. Our decisions and actions always affect the lives of other human beings, either directly or by the ripples they create. It is an awesome responsibility.

We must therefore choose our actions wisely and with integrity. And we must never waiver in our endeavor to make a difference. Even when we become frustrated and question our success, we must persevere. If we do, perhaps someday when we least expect it, someone will approach us and say: "You changed my life."

*Maybe the reason most people don't like the police is they represent accountability and authority in an age when both have gone by the boards.*



## **SEPTEMBER 1998**

The following traffic citations were issued for the month of September: 4 speeding and 1 no drivers license on person.

Three arrests were logged on charges of disturbing the peace, remaining where forbidden, and theft.

### **RED RIBBON WEEK 1998** **OCTOBER 23 TO NOVEMBER 1** **"PAVING THE WAY TO A DRUG-FREE** **ST. MARY PARISH!**

#### **RED RIBBON HISTORY**

On Thursday, February 7, 1985, Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, 37, stashed his badge and his service revolver in his desk drawer and headed for lunch with his wife, Mika, 34. Kiki, a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent, had been on the trail of Mexico's marijuana and cocaine barons. He was due to be reassigned in three weeks, having come dangerously close to unlocking a multi-billion dollar drug pipeline, which he suspected extended into the highest reaches of the Mexican army, police and government.

According to the DEA's reconstruction of events, five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him into a car. That was the last time anyone but his kidnappers would see him alive.

Kiki Camarena's body was found one month later in the shallow grave, 70 miles from Michoacan, Mexico. He had been tortured, beaten, and brutally murdered. Mika would have to tell her three sons that their daddy would not be coming home again.

News of this tragedy was hitting newspapers, radio stations, and television news broadcasts, and members of the National Federation of

parents for Drug Free Youth (now the National Family Partnership) were angry and sick of the killing and destruction caused by alcohol and other drugs.

The red ribbon became their symbol to eliminate the demand for drugs, and the Red Ribbon Campaign became the catalyst to show intolerance for drugs in our schools, work places, and communities. In 1988, the National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth coordinated the first Red Ribbon Week, an eight-day celebration proclaimed by the congress of the United States.

Each year since 1988, larger and greater support of the cause and symbol of the Red Ribbon Campaign has impacted millions of Americans like no other drug prevention movement in history.

Through a steady increase in corporate support, government participation, and community involvement, that little piece of red satin has become one of the most powerful symbols of drug prevention in America!

#### **HOW CAN I TELL IF MY CHILD IS USING DRUGS?**

One of the questions asked increasingly by parents is: "How can I tell if my child is using drugs?" This is a most difficult question when signs and symptoms associated with behavior are used as a basis for (Knowing) suspicion. It is difficult to separate the typical adolescent behavior from the drug-induced behavior: but the parent should consider the following behavior suspect:

##### **1. Does the child seem to be changing...**

**Is the child becoming more:** irritable, less affectionate, secretive, unpredictable, hostile, depressed, uncooperative, apathetic, withdrawn, sullen, easily provoked, oversensitive?

**2. Is the child becoming less responsible?**

**Is the child:** not doing chores, late coming home, tardy at school, forgetful of family occasions (birthdays, etc.), not cutting grass, allowing room to be untidy, not completing homework?

**3. Is the child changing friends, dress code or interests?**

**Has the child:** a new group of friends, the language of new friends, hair styles like new friends, switched clothes styles, become reluctant to talk about new friends, become very interested in rock music and concerts, become less interested in school, sports and academic hobbies, refused to talk about parents of new friends, started insisting on more privacy, demanded permission to stay out later than usual?

**4. Is the child more difficult to communicate with?**

**Does the child:** refuse to talk about details of friendship, group activities, refuse to discuss "drug issues," become defensive when negative effects of drug use are discussed, strongly defend occasional use of experimental use of drugs by peers, insist that adults hassle their children, begin to defend "rights" of youth, prefer to talk about bad habits of adults?

**5. Is the child beginning to show physical and/or mental deterioration?**

**Does the child show:** disordered thinking or ideas and thought patterns that seem out-of-order, heightened sensitivity to touch, smell and taste, increased appetite from marijuana smoking (known as the "munchies", loss of ability to blush, decreased ability in rapid thought process, amotivational syndrome, weight loss?

**Behavior changes as discussed in 1 through 5 may occur over a period of a few months, the summer, over a year or more. These behavior patterns should be monitored closely by the**

**parent. More blatant will begin if the child can manipulate his way through the aforementioned examples and more obvious drug use behavior will begin to occur.**

**6. Is the child's behavior becoming more intolerable to parent?**

**Does the child:** demand his right to drink alcohol, refuse to spend additional time on studies even though grades are down, insist that teachers are unfair, become extremely irritable, refuse to do chores, use bad language, come home late with alcohol on breath, claim people are telling lies on him, claim never to have smoked pot, not want to eat with or spend time with family, act very secretive on telephone? After behavioral clues to drug use, there usually comes the tell-tale physical evidence which is difficult to deny. The child will usually lie or give half-truths to parents when caught.

**7. Is the child becoming careless in his drug use?**

**Does the child:** forget to replace the liquor stolen from parents' cabinet, put the bottle between mattresses, leave the "roach" in flower pot, in bathroom or car ashtray, forget who vomited in family car, insist that marijuana found in car or room belongs to someone else?

**8. Is the child becoming drug dependent?**

**Does the child:** take money from his parents, brothers or sisters, steal objects from home that are easily converted to cash, lie chronically, drop out of school?

**Is the child:** caught shoplifting, charged with burglary, charged with prostitution, arrested for drug use or delinquent act?

**Does the child attempt suicide?**

**- Thomas J. Gleaton, Ed D.**

*Source: Elks Drug Awareness Program flyer*

**TRIBAL COURT NEWS**

By Shirleen B. Fitzgerald, Tribal Courts Director

Effective September 14, 1998, the Court Clerk's office was relocated into the "Old Hut" building, at 100 Chitimacha Loop Road. The Court House and Judge's Chambers remain at 3287 Chitimacha Trail, as well as the Community Service Administrator's office. Therefore, any persons needing assistance from the Court may enter the Clerk's office from Chitimacha Loop.

**CURRENT COURT STATISTICS:**

**AUGUST**

**CASES:** (15)

5 Civil Actions (4 Garnishments/1 Probate); 1 Domestic Action (1 Petition for Divorce); 9 Traffic (Civil Infractions)

**MORTGAGES AND LIENS:** (30)

29 Assignments/1 Form UCC-1

**MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS:** (16)

Chitimacha Property Use Agreement

**COURT OF APPEALS:** (00)

**TOTAL ACTIONS PROCESSED  
IN AUGUST  
(61)**

**CASES PENDING AS OF AUGUST 1, 1998:**

**TRIAL COURT:** (44)

- 12 CIVIL (10 Torts/2 Reg. CV)
- 01 CRIMINAL (Class A)
- 05 DOMESTIC RELATIONS
- 13 JUVENILE
- 13 TRAFFIC

**APPELLATE COURT:** (00)

**SEPTEMBER**

**CASES:** (18)

9 Civil Actions (8 Garnishments/1 Probate); 9 Traffic (Civil Infractions)

**MORTGAGES AND LIENS:** (28)

26 Assignments/1 Form UCC-1/1 Assign. of Lease to Secure Mortgage

**MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS:** (00)

**COURT OF APPEALS:** (00)

**TOTAL ACTIONS PROCESSED  
THRU SEPTEMBER 24, 1998  
(46)**

**CASES PENDING AS OF  
SEPTEMBER 1, 1998:**

**TRIAL COURT:** (36)

- 11 CIVIL (9 Torts/1 Reg. CV/1 Probate)
- 01 CRIMINAL (Class A)
- 04 DOMESTIC RELATIONS
- 11 JUVENILE
- 09 TRAFFIC

**APPELLATE COURT:** (00)

**COURT SESSIONS:  
TRIBAL TRIAL COURT:**

**AUGUST:**

This month's regular session was conducted on August 11, 1998, at which time 46 matters were scheduled to be heard;

- (07) JUVENILE  
(2 Review Hearings/1 Dispositional Hearing/1 Fact-Finding Hearing/1 Show Cause Hearing Review)
- (02) CRIMINAL  
(2 Trials)
- (21) TRAFFIC  
(2 Hearings on Violation of Financial Agreement/1 CR TR Infraction/18 Civil Traffic Infractions)
- (05) DOMESTIC RELATIONS  
(3 Hearings on Petition For Divorce/1 Hearing Petition for Guardianship/1 Modification of Judgment)
- (11) CIVIL TORT ACTIONS  
(1 Regular Civil/3 Hearings on Motions/2 Jury/Non-Jury Determination/2 Preliminary Hearings/2 Rule to Show Cause/1 Pre-Trial Conference)

**SEPTEMBER:**

This month's regular session was conducted on September 8, 1998, at which time 22 matters were scheduled to be heard;

- (05) JUVENILE  
(3 Review Hearings)
- (00) CRIMINAL
- (09) TRAFFIC  
(9 Civil Traffic Infractions)
- (03) DOMESTIC RELATIONS  
(1 Review Hearing/2 Hearings on Petition for Divorce)
- (05) CIVIL TORT ACTIONS  
(1 Reg. CV/4 Pre-Trial Conferences)

**SPECIAL SESSION:**

There was a Special Session held on September 9, 1998 at which time 2 Hearings on Petitions for Divorce were conducted.

**NEXT REGULAR SESSION:**

Our next regular session is scheduled for October 7, 1998, with open session beginning at 10:00 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*  
*As always, if you would like any further information regarding the Tribal Courts, please feel free to contact the Court at 923-7806; or come by anytime. Our regular office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday.*

## ENROLLMENT NEWS:

By Ardith Soprano, Enrollment Officer

### **E**nrollment Applications:

Applications for Enrollment can be obtained by calling the Enrollment Office at (318) 923-2463 or by writing:

Chitimacha Enrollment  
P.O. Box 661  
Charenton, LA 70523

Each application must include a certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate plus documentation establishing that the applicant is a direct descendant of person(s) listed on the 1926 Annuity Roll and/or the 1959 Census Roll.

**Change of Information:** Please remember to notify the Enrollment Office of any changes in your address, phone number, or name.

If you have had a name change, please provide legal documentation of such along with a copy of your new Social Security Card showing your new name.

**Births:** If you or someone in your family has had a baby recently, please remember to request an enrollment application. Your child's application must be approved by the Chitimacha Tribal Council. Please contact this office as soon as possible to start the enrollment process.

**Deaths:** If you have recently lost a loved one, please notify the Enrollment Office. It is necessary to obtain a copy of the death certificate in order for us to adjust our Enrollment records

### **End-of-Year Enrollment Regulations (Per Capita Eligibility):**

### **Applicants Born Prior to January 1, 1998:**

Any applicant born prior to January 1, 1998 must have completed the application process and have been approved by the Tribal Council prior to December 31, 1998. Applicants not meeting the above deadline will not be eligible to participate in the 1998 Per Capita Program.

### **Applicants Born Between January 1 and December 31, 1998:**

Those applicants born between January 1, and December 31, 1998, must meet the following deadlines in order to be eligible to participate in the 1998 Per Capita Program.

**A.** Enrollment applications must be on file in the Enrollment Office by close of business on January 4, 1999.

**B.** Enrollment applications must be approved by the Tribal Council prior to March 31, 1999.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION NEWS:

By: Ardith Soprano, Cont. Ed. Coord.

### Scholarship News:

Fall '98 Semester:

The Fall funding cycle has just been completed. There are 46 students participating in the Student Aid Program at this time. Of these, 8 are enrolled in Vocational/Technical schools with the remainder enrolled at colleges/Universities.

We wish each of our students success for the Fall Semester - for their success is our success!

### Applications- Spring 1999:

Anyone wishing to receive an application packet for the Spring 1999 Semester, please call the Scholarship office at (318) 923-2463. If I am not in my office, please leave a message. My machine is on 24 hours a day! I will return your call as soon as possible.



### Community Pay-back Program:

The Community Pay Back Program has become very active of late. We have provided services for the Community Appreciation Day which was held in June.

We have assisted various departments throughout the year. We have done research throughout the country for the Cultural Department, and have provided Community Clean-up services here on the Reservation.

With all of these activities, we are planning more for this year! If you have any creative ideas as to how our students can impact on the Community, please call to speak to me. I am always eager to find meaningful activities for our students!

### Upcoming Pay Back Opportunities!

1. Assistance is requested for October 24, 1998. Anyone interested in working on this day, please call to schedule your hours. Those working that day will be helping with the annual employee picnic. Duties will include monitoring games, serving meals, facilitating sports activities, face painting, and set-up and clean-up activities. This activity will be a fun way to earn your hours.

Workers are needed to help the teachers at the Tribal School to prepare for their annual Halloween Carnival. Manual labor is needed prior to the actual Carnival. Help is needed to build booths, paint and decorate carnival site, and general set-up activities. If you are interested in helping, please call me after the 12<sup>th</sup> of October and I should have dates and times available by then. This activity is another good way to earn your hours...it's fun too!

The annual Health Fair is coming up in

November. Your assistance is needed to make posters, man booths, help with registration, and other duties. The Health Department appreciates your assistance each year and are depending on your assistance again this year. Those of you who would like to do art work on posters, please contact me by October 31<sup>st</sup>. I should have the needed information by then. Those of you who will be able to work during the fair, please call me to schedule your hours. The date has not been set as yet but I will have that information by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Fall Feast is coming up soon, workers are always needed to assist during this activity. If you would like to participate, please call me. I should have the date of the Feast by October 31, 1998.

### The GED Program:

The GED Program is alive and well!!! Classes are held on Mondays and Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Tribal School cafeteria. Anyone interested in getting their GED, this is a great time to take that first step.

Our GED Program has been very successful! We have graduated 22 people since the Fall of 1995. I can't help but believe that our program's success is a combination of the students' desire along with the dedication of our two very caring and competent instructors.

I want to invite all Tribal and Community members who need to gain their GED to stop by the school cafeteria to meet our instructors, to ask questions about our program and to sign up for classes!!!

Remember: *The time is right...the time is now!!!.....Go for it.....*

**Human Services Department**  
**By Lois Rider, Director**

**T**here have been many studies conducted on how to prevent alcohol and drug use among our youth. Recently the National Institute on Drug Abuse released some factors that may help.

The following is a checklist of youth protective factors:

1. Community Environment
  - Middle or upper class
  - Low unemployment
  - Adequate housing
  - Pleasant neighborhood
  - Low prevalence of neighborhood crime
  - Good schools
  - Schools that promote learning, participation, and responsibility
  - High quality health care
  - Easy access to adequate social services
  - Flexible social services providers who put clients' needs first
2. Family Environment
  - Adequate family income
  - Structured and nurturing family
  - Parents who promote learning
  - Fewer than four children in family
  - Two or more years between the birth of each child
  - Few chronic stressful life events
  - Multigenerational kinship network
  - Non-kin support network
  - Warm, close personal relationship with parents and/or other adults
  - Little marital conflict
  - Family stability and cohesiveness
  - Plenty of attention during first year of life
  - Sibling as caretaker/confidante
  - Clear behavior guidelines
3. Constitutional Strengths

Adequate early sensorimotor and language development  
High intelligence  
Physically robust  
No emotional or temperamental impairments

4. Personality of the Child
  - Affectionate/endearing
  - Easy temperament
  - Autonomous
  - Adaptable and flexible
  - Positive outlook
  - Healthy expectations
  - Self-efficacy
  - Self-discipline
  - Internal locus of control
  - Problem-solving skills
  - Socially adept
  - Tolerance of people and situations

If the high-risk environment is the family itself, for instance if children are growing up in an alcoholic or drug abusing family studies suggest that they have a better chance of growing into healthy adulthood if they:

- Can learn to do one thing well that is valued by themselves, their friends, or their community;
- Are required to be helpful as they grow up;
- Are able to ask for help for themselves;
- Are able to elicit positive responses from others in their environment;
- Are able to distance themselves from their dysfunctional families so that the family is not their sole frame of reference;
- Are able to bond with some socially valued, positive entity such as school, community group, church, or another family;
- Are able to interact with a caring adult who provides consistent caring responses.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT INFORMATION**  
**By Pat Goutirez, R.N.**

**STOP DIABETES IN ITS TRACKS!!!**

On October 27,1998 the Chitimacha Health Department has planned an Evening Fun Walk to be held at the Fitness Center from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Also to be included are:

- **FREE DIABETIC FOOT SCREENINGS**
- **FREE REFRESHMENTS**
- **FREE PRIZES TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATE**
- **FREE DIABETES/FOOT CARE INFORMATION**

**TIPS FOR THE DIABETIC BUYING NEW SHOES**

1. Buy shoes in the afternoon. Most people's feet will be swollen by the afternoon.
2. Tell the salesperson you have diabetes.
3. Have the shoe salesperson measure both feet.
4. Test the shoe fit by wearing them for at least 5 minutes in the store.
5. If shoes hurt when you try them on, do not buy them.
6. Break in new shoes by wearing them for 1 - 2 hours at a time for the first few days.
7. Never wear new shoes all day.
8. Check your feet for redness or irritation. If the shoes are causing redness or irritation, return them as soon as possible.

---

The Health Department is planning to offer mammograms on site for community members on October 27, 1997 for women 35 and older. The mammograms will be performed via mobile mammography from Women's & Children's Hospital here at the Health Department. Services will be paid for the tribe for tribal women only. Non-tribal community members and tribal employees may participate but will be responsible for payment. Insurance billing will be handled through Women's & Children's Hospital which will accept personal insurance. Medicare, Medicaid, and cash/checks. Anyone interested in participating please contact Pat Goutirez at 923-9955 by 10/07/98. Women's & Children's Hospital requires a physician's referral for the mammogram. If participants would like a referral from Dr. Deshotel, please notify Pat Goutirez before 10/07/98.

**Recreation News**  
**By Jeri & Billy St.Blanc**

**T**he weather is still hot and so is the recreation schedule for the next couple of months. We have lots of activities planned. Fall baseball is back again. Although, at first, we didn't think there would be a league offered, the tables turned and the city managed to put it together. We have boys ages 8-14 registered in two different age categories. Last year's fall baseball really helped our young players develop into fine players for the summer. Games will be played on Mondays and Thursdays in Franklin at Caffery Park. It looks like the league will begin the first week in September and go through the second week in October.

**Pee Wee Football** is also taking off. Boys ages 9-12 signed up to play on Tuesdays and Sundays in Franklin.

**Cross-country** has started. We are running at 6:30 P.M. so we can handle the heat a little better. Looks like we have a nice group out. Anyone wanting to train with us is welcome. Come out and jog, walk or run. Our first road race is Sept.12 at 8:00 A.M. in Jeanerette and our first cross-country race is in Cade at E.S.A.

**VOLLEYBALL TEAMS** are picked. We had a great turnout on Wednesday, Aug.26th. We made four mixed teams. Three practices have been planned for Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 P.M. If you can make 1 or all 3, come and join the fun. Our first game is planned for Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 then Wednesdays on Sept.16, Sept.23, Sept.30, and Oct. 7.

**Dance Fever!** Wednesday and Thursday at 5:15 P.M. in the school gym Dance is offered. Jr. High and up are welcome. Jeanine St.Blanc is teaching the class and has a lot to offer our young people.

**Water, Floor and Step Aerobics** are still offered four days a week on Monday-Thursday. It's time to get back in shape and feel better.

**Senior Exercise** is offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00-9:00 A.M. You can start off slowly. We'll be glad to help you with a program.

August 14<sup>th</sup> marked the date of our first **swim meet** this year. We tried to get a couple of meets with the Lafayette area teams but they could not swim against us because of league regulations and insurance. With this slight problem, we decided to put together our own meet. I called some of the kids I taught private lessons in the past and Roye Pontiff did the same. This allowed our swimmers to swim against some competition before next year.

Below are the results from our two meets.

|                                   |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| August 14 <sup>th</sup>           | Heat 1                           | 1 <sup>st</sup> Joshua Vilcan    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lindsay Martin   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ben Darden       |
| <b>Front Crawl</b>                | 1 <sup>st</sup> Erin Compton     |                                  | Heat 2                           | HEAT 2                           |
| <b>6-under</b>                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meagan Persilver | 1 <sup>st</sup> Morgan Martin    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Maggie Darden    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Grant LaGarde    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> William Martin    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Schuylar Vilcan  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tasia Bernard    | <b>9-10</b>                      |                                  |
| <b>7-8</b>                        | Heat 2                           | <b>15-up</b>                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Matthew Darden   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Shayna Caro      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Nathaniel LeBlanc | 1 <sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Amy Darden       | HEAT 1                           |                                  |
|                                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Adrianna Bernard | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jessica Deslatte | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Erin Compton     | <b>15-up</b>                     |
| Heat 1                            | <b>11-12</b>                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jamie Darden     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meagan Persilver | 1 <sup>st</sup> Jessica Deslatte |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Hannah LaGarde    | Heat 1                           | <b>Breaststroke</b>              | 4 <sup>th</sup> Schuylar Vilcan  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jamie Darden     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Maggie Darden     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Ben Darden       | <b>6-under</b>                   | HEAT 2                           |                                  |
|                                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Brandt Johnson   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> William Martin   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Adrianna Bernard | <b>Backstroke</b>                |
| Heat2                             | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nick Persilver   |                                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Arielle Darden   | <b>6-under</b>                   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lindsey Martin    | Heat 2                           | <b>7-8</b>                       | <b>11-12</b>                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> William Martin   |
| <b>9-10</b>                       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grant LaGarde    | Heat 1                           | HEAT 1                           | <b>7-8</b>                       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Matthew Darden    | <b>13-14</b>                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Hannah LaGarde   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Nick Persilver   | Heat 1                           |
|                                   |                                  |                                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Brandt Johnson   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lindsey Martin   |



Heat 2  
3<sup>rd</sup> Hannah LaGarde  
**9-10**

1<sup>st</sup> Matthew Darden  
Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Adrianna Bernard

Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Schuyler Vilcan  
2<sup>nd</sup> Erin Compton  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meagan Persilver  
**11-12**

Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Ben Darden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Brandt Johnson  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nick Persilver

Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Grant LaGarde  
4<sup>th</sup> Shayna Caro  
**13-14**

1<sup>st</sup> Morgan Martin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Joshua Vilcan  
**15-up**  
1<sup>st</sup> Jamie Darden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Deslatte

**Butterfly**

**7-8**  
1<sup>st</sup> Hannah Lagarde  
**9-10**

Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Erin Compton  
3<sup>rd</sup> Schuyler Vilcan  
4<sup>th</sup> Meagan Persilver

Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Adrianna Bernard  
**11-12**

Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Brandt Johnson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grant LaGarde  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nick Persilver

Heat 2  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Darden  
**15-up**  
1<sup>st</sup> Jamie Darden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Darden

Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>  
Front Crawl

**6- under**

1<sup>st</sup> William Martin  
**7-8**  
1<sup>st</sup> Nathaniel LeBlanc  
heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Hannah LaGarde  
2<sup>nd</sup> Maggie Darden  
heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Lindsey Martin

**9-10**

Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Slade Bobbitt  
Heat2  
Matthew Darden  
heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Erin Compton

heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Adrianna Bernard  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meagan Persilver  
11-12  
1<sup>st</sup> Ben Darden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grant LaGarde  
3<sup>rd</sup> Brandt Johnson

**13-14**

1<sup>st</sup> Lonnie Martin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nick Persilver  
3<sup>rd</sup> Josuha Vilcan  
4<sup>th</sup> Damon Hebert

1<sup>st</sup> Tasia Bernard  
2<sup>nd</sup> Morgan Martin  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jamie Darden

**Butterfly**

6-under  
1<sup>st</sup> William Martin  
**7-8**  
Heat 1  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hannah LaGarde  
4<sup>th</sup> Maggie Darden  
Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Lindsey Martin

**9-10**

1<sup>st</sup> Slade Bobbitt  
2<sup>nd</sup> Matthew Darden  
Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Adrianna Bernard  
Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Erin Compton

2<sup>nd</sup> Meagan Persilver  
**11-12**

1<sup>st</sup> Brandt Johnson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grant LaGarde  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Darden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Shayna Caro  
13-14

1<sup>st</sup> Nick Persilver  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lonnie Martin  
3<sup>rd</sup> Damon Hebert  
4<sup>th</sup> Josuha Vilcan

**15-up**

2<sup>nd</sup> Jamie Darden

**Backstroke**

**7-8**  
Heat 1  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hannah LaGarde  
3<sup>rd</sup> Maggie Darden  
Heat 2  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lindsey Martin

**9-10**

2<sup>nd</sup> Slade Bobbitt  
3<sup>rd</sup> Matthew Darden  
Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Adrianna Bernard  
Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Erin Compton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Meagan Persilver  
**11-12**  
1<sup>st</sup> Grant LaGarde  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Darden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Brandt Johnson

4<sup>th</sup> Shayna Caro

**13-14**

1<sup>st</sup> Lonnie Martin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Josuha Vilcan  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nick Persilver  
4<sup>th</sup> Damon Hebert

**Butterfly**

**6-under**  
1<sup>st</sup> Hannah LaGarde  
3<sup>rd</sup> Maggie Darden  
4<sup>th</sup> Lindsey Martin  
**9-10**  
1<sup>st</sup> Slade Bobbitt

Heat 1  
1<sup>st</sup> Arielle Darden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Adrianna Bernard  
Heat 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Erin Compton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Meagan Persilver

**11-12**

1<sup>st</sup> Brandt Johnson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Darden  
**13-14**  
1<sup>st</sup> Lonnie Martin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nick Persilver  
3<sup>rd</sup> Damon Hebert  
3<sup>rd</sup> Joshua Vilcan

1<sup>st</sup> Morgan Martin

Congratulations to all the swimmers. We'll start again in March next year.

The **Scuba** Introduction presented by Mr. Charley Dupre was very informative. Those that are interested, more information will be provided at a later date.

**SOCCER SOCCER SOCCER SOCCER**

I've have lots of calls about soccer. We met and discussed the plan. We are going to try a league on the reservation. In order to plan an effective league we've decided to put a deadline on the registration. Boys and girls, ages 6-15 are welcome. Two dates have been set- Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00-7:00 P.M. and Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 4:00-7:00 P.M. You may come in any time until Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> but we will not except any registrations after the 16<sup>th</sup>. We still have lots of planning to do. Call if you need more information or if you need a registration form. (923-4975)

**STAY HEALTHY AND ACTIVE!!!!**

**Cultural Department News**  
By Kimberly S.Walden, M.Ed.

The past month was filled with travel to museums and also the U.S.E.T. conference. The department is continuing consultations with museums across the United States that have collections of Chitimacha archeological and ethnographic items. We received a N.A.G.P.R.A. (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) grant for travel to these museums from the National Park Service and we are trying to complete the travel by the end of September.

While at the museums we view the collections, review the accession records for each item, photograph and video the items (when appropriate), discuss curation and storage and make recommendations for the care of the items. After the travel has been completed, we will make a presentation to the Tribal community to share the information that we gathered.

The Cultural Department has been helping the school implement the language and cultural program. Sandra Caro is the Chitimacha Language and Cultural Instructor. The Chitimacha language is taught to each grade PK-8<sup>th</sup>, daily for approximately 30 minutes and Cultural Education classes take place once a week per grade for approximately one hour. Ms. Sam and the kids have been doing a great job and I am certain that we will be seeing great results from this program. I want to encourage parents to ask your children about what they are learning in these classes and to learn the language with your children.

**Yard of the Month**  
By: Carolyn Burgess Savage

The yard of Tessa and Neal Darden has been selected as the Yard of the Month winner for September. Tessa and Neal reside at 141 Cherokee Street. Congratulations to both of you. We want to thank you for adding to the beauty of our community with your very attractive yard.

Our yard-of-the-month sign will be placed in Tessa and Neal's yard for the entire month of September. They will receive a \$100 cash prize as well as a plaque, which they can retain, noting that they were winners of The Yard of the Month for September, 1998.

Now that the worst part of the summer heat is over, we can begin to enjoy working out in our yards again. I want to thank everyone again for putting forth the extra effort to make our community more



**Tessa & Neal Darden, Garden of the Month**

attractive.

In case some of you are wondering, I just want to let you know that October will be the last month this year that the yard of the month will be selected.. I hope you will enjoy the cooler weather we should be having this month..

THANK YOU

**TIPS FROM RACHEL**

What comes to mind when the word "September" is spoken? The end of summer vacation! Beginning of School! Football season! Replanting the garden! What? Replanting the garden!! Yes, you heard me right. September, surprisingly, can be a very busy month for replanting in our gardens. If your summer annuals have gone the way of summer vacations [over for the year], there are some warm weather annuals which can be planted now, that will do well in mild-fall temperatures . Marigolds, candytuft, cleome, begonia, and petunias will thrive during the cooler months ahead.

If you plan on adding a few trees or shrubs to fill in sparse areas in your landscape, try selecting some accent plants that will provide autumn color. Trees that have beautiful fall red colors include dogwoods, red maples, black gum, sweet gum, and red or scarlet oaks. Shrubs with outstanding red fall foliage include viburnum, winged eronymus, and barberry.

With cooler weather just around the corner and the thought of less mowing for the next few months, who wouldn't be happy! So stay with it for a little while longer.

'Til next month...

**Cultural Community News**  
**By Carolyn Burgess Savage**

I would like to take this opportunity to let you all know that we have a new schedule for our community cultural classes. The schedule for activities is as follows:

|           |                   |   |
|-----------|-------------------|---|
| Mondays   | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM | Beading classes   |
| Tuesdays  | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM | Language classes (Adults, Post High School)                     |
| Thursdays | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM | Language classes (Teens, Junior high through 12 <sup>th</sup> ) |
| Saturdays | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM | Project classes (Two Saturdays per month)                       |

As you can see, we have extended our beading class times by thirty minutes. If you can't be here by 6:00 PM, please get to class as soon as you can. This class is designed for teens and older. All participants have a good time and it's a great way to unwind at the end of the day. If any of you are planning to make beaded jewelry for Christmas, now is the time to begin. We also enjoy seeing each other's finished work. Come on out and join us. You'll be glad you did.

Beginning this July, Chitimacha language classes started for adults. These classes will be held Tuesday evenings. We're having a really good time in this class. It's a lot more fun to work in a group, so I want to invite any of you who are the least bit interested to come and join us. Some people have indicated that they just don't have the time to study a great deal during the week. We do realize that everyone is very busy and that time is precious to all of us. Our classes are very informal and they are not overly demanding. The pace of the classes is set by the participants. We learn new words and phrases each week. The sooner you get involved, the more you will learn. If you think that you would feel uncomfortable or 'funny' trying to say the words, then you definitely belong in our group. We have all felt like that but once you begin learning the words those feelings will fade away..

Another thing for us to remember is that we truly are making history here. This is the first time our Chitimacha language has ever been taught. It is sad that the teaching of the language was lost over the past years, but it is very exciting that this exchange of knowledge has now been revived and that an effort is being made to reintroduce this very valuable part of our culture. I want to invite you all to come and help us revive our language. I know some of you are using your books and tapes and are going through the exercises on your own and I commend you. Whenever you can come and join us in class, we will welcome you with open arms.

I'd like to share a few comments with you from one of our class members. Rachel Dugas says, "Waxtuysi [hello] fellow tribal members. I go to the Chitimacha language classes at the cultural department and love it. So far we have learned about eighty different words and phrases. I look forward to learning huynak[all] of our language. It's not as complicated as you might think. You take your time and there's no rushing it. So, come on and join us. Huya [thanks]."

We also have a class for our teens on Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:30. Talk about busy... I know you all are super busy but I want to extend a personal invitation to each of you to come and join us. As I said before, our classes are very informal and we have a lot of fun learning together. I have to agree with a comment made by one of our teens. He said, "it's the kind of thing that doesn't seem too important now but when we get older, we'll be real glad that we learned it." I know getting here is half the battle so you all come and we'll have a good time together as we learn our language. Juqunk qamcuk. {See you later}

We also have project classes two Saturday's a month. Please call us at 923-9923 and sign up. When we have enough participants for a class, we will schedule one. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

## NEWS FROM THE PAST

By: Melanie Marcotte

*In the last few articles, I have written about famous Chitimacha basket makers of the past. These articles were written directly from the authors who interviewed the Chitimacha basket makers. But, in writing about the basket makers, it would not be complete without the telling of a basket maker of more recent times. The following article, entitled "Two Hands Hold The Secret of Chitimacha Basketry", was written in November of 1984 and printed in the Louisiana Life magazine by author Gwen Carpenter. The basket maker, Miss Ada Thomas.*

"On a quiet day, and there are many of them on the Chitimacha Indian Reservation in Charenton, the dry rustle of cane reeds whispers through Ada Thomas' house like a ghost. Shk, Shk, shk... her fingers automatically lift, slide, tuck, and turn the cane strips into the growing tri-color basket design, but her mind is free to dwell wherever it fancies. Sometimes she drifts back 200 years, to a time when a dozen Chitimacha women would gather under the giant oaks along Bayou Teche to weave their distinctive baskets for home use and trade items. In those days the rustle of the cane was lost amid the many conversations going on at once. One of the weavers longs for a tighter palmetto roof on her house before storm season arrives. Another bemoans the lack of marriageable women in her son's social class. According to Chitimacha custom, he probably will remain single rather than marry beneath his station. Another weaver brags of her offspring's hunting skills, which keep his family well fed with deer roasts and alligator meat.

At other times, Ada's thoughts drift to her Depression-era childhood on the reservation. Gazing off into the sleepy afternoons through the dust haze kicked up by the mules in the sugar cane fields, Ada would listen to her grandmother, Christine Paul, and her aunt, Pauline Paul, chatting as they wove their baskets.

Then the talk was of money and jobs, or rather the lack of them. A chuckle breaks through Ada's pursed lips now when she recalls the government man who spent a year



recording the speech of her grandfather, Benjamin Paul, the last Chitimacha Indian to use the ancient language. It was a frustrating year for everyone, as the adults struggled to keep the children out of hearing and the children tried even harder to catch a word or a phrase. The parents were determined for the children to learn English and put their Indian language and traditions behind them. Those same values produced the first reservation school in 1934. It went only to the eighth grade, and the nearest high school for Indians was in Kansas. It was in that little grammar school that Ada learned to make the traditional Chitimacha baskets. Her grandmother, and later her aunt, taught the girls for a salary of \$1 per day. Almost 50 years later, it's still easy for Ada to remember that room, so busy with the bright cotton colors of homemade dresses and the conspiratorial murmurs and giggles of little girls.

Today Ada's basket-making hours are spent in silence, because no one else in the tribe makes the intricate double-weave baskets that were once the pride of this artistic people. She retreats into her thoughts and memories, always alone, as her fingers do their work. From time to time Ada's expressive face reflects the emotions her thoughts evoke. Satisfaction over her sons' oil field jobs. Pride over her young granddaughter and hope for more grandchildren to come. Concern over the monstrous Harley-Davidson her youngest son rides on his weeks off. Worry over the growing alcohol and drug problem among the boys in her sons' age group. At times she feels stifled by the small town atmosphere of the reservation, tucked into the endless sugar cane fields of St. Mary Parish.



'It's hard to remember what day of the week it is,' she says, 'but what does it matter? Friday is the same as Monday, anyway.'

Ada urges her sons to get out and see some of the world. Remembering her own spirit of adventure as a teen-ager, she says, 'I knew there had to be more out there' - more than a grammar school education at the reservation school-house. More than making baskets that sold for next to nothing. More than marrying another tribal member who hoped for little seasonal work on the cane plantations to supplement the four cents a pound he received for fish. More than growing old on the reservation. 'Back then there was nothing for an Indian here,' she says, 'no work, no school-just sit on the reservation and wait to die.' So when she graduated from grade school, Ada took off for New Orleans where, because of the war effort, even Indians were allowed to attend night school if they worked in the aircraft plants. There Ada found a mixture of cultures that fascinated her.

After settling in a rented room, Ada spent hours just taking in the sights around her neighborhood in the French Quarter. On school days she often would spread her books in Jackson Square in order to study without missing any of the action.

Between work and school Ada didn't have a lot of free time, but with her long black hair and 24-inch waist, she soon had a full date calendar. In New Orleans, and later in other big cities, she discovered that being an Indian was not the social handicap it was around the reservation. She laughs with pleasure over the months she spent in Washington, D.C., and New York as a single working girl. 'Oh, I had a good time,' she says. 'I bought the finest clothes and went to all the best places.' She found Miami to be the most hospitable city of all. 'Down there being an Indian was no big thing,' she says. There she met and married her husband, Charles Thomas, watchmaker, jeweler and former Customs official for the Port of New York. Years later, as her husband's health began to fail, Ada moved

her family back to the security of relatives at the reservation. When Charles died, leaving her with three growing boys to raise alone, she could hardly afford to live anywhere else.

Returning to the reservation in 1970, Ada felt the strain of being an outsider in her own home. She was also surprised at the changes that had taken place in her years of absence. The excruciating poverty she remembered as a child had been relieved to a great extent by the oil industry, which didn't care whether a hand was red, white or black if it could perform a job. Once work became available within driving distance of the reservation, many Chitimachas returned home. The six houses on the reservation had grown to 50. Today the number is closer to 70.

She soon discovered, however, that the very industry that had saved her people was helping to destroy their culture. Newly purchased televisions and automobiles were blurring the boundaries between the Chitimacha Reservation and the outside world. The new prosperity also brought about more marriages with Anglos, which further diluted the Chitimacha influence. What little money the women had earned making baskets was not needed now, since most husbands had decent jobs, so the women had dropped the craft in favor of more modern pastimes.

Ada viewed the oil industry as the salvation of her tribe rather than its ruination, but she still longed to do something to preserve part of her heritage. She could not retrieve the language she had never been allowed to learn, but perhaps she could save the basket art that had been the envy of all the Southeastern tribes.

A trip to the nearest bayou proved that the cane was still plentiful, and as Ada cut the stalks with her cane knife, she remembered to look for long specimens with widely spaced joints- for fewer knots and, therefore, a smoother basket. Splitting and peeling the cane was easier than she remembered as a child. While her boys were

at the reservation school she began fingering the strips, remembering little by little the old patterns. Occasionally, she would bring out the faded baskets she had made as a child to jog her memory about the next step. To her surprise, her weaving skills were still sharp after 30 years of disuse. To her greater surprise, there was now a decent market for the finished product. A basket like those that had brought her aunt only \$2 was now snatched up for \$150. Today Ada's large ones sell for \$1,800.

It's not easy money, though. Even after the tedious gathering and peeling of the cane, a large basket still requires a month of eight to 15 hour days of weaving. Ada's early efforts to save the dying art form were given a boost by Stephen Richmond, field representative for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Delighted to learn that even one Chitimacha Indian had retained the skill to make the prized baskets, he traveled to Charenton to meet Ada and immediately applied in her behalf, to the National Endowment for the Arts, for a \$5,000 Craftman's Fellowship to prepare an extensive exhibit of Chitimacha basketry. The results were a popular showing at the Anglo-American Museum at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and a permanent Ada Thomas collection for the Department of the Interior. The exposure has aroused public interest to the point that Ada is at least two years behind in filling orders from all over the country for her baskets. She can't keep up with the invitations she receives to crafts festivals, such as the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and the prestigious Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

Ada's goal, however, is still unrealized. In the years she has spent trying to save Chitimacha basketry, no other Chitimacha has come forward to learn the skills required to make a double-weave basket.

Several years ago the government sponsored a year of instruction in basket weaving at the reservation, but Ada's attempts to teach the class

of 21 boys and girls was less than successful. They were still too young to be interested. Ada longs to pass on her precious knowledge in an individual teaching situation, with students who show definite aptitude for handiwork and a strong interest in tribal tradition. For centuries the craft was passed down from mother to daughter, and Ada believes the one-to-one teaching method is the only way to pass the knowledge along.

First a weaver must find a bayou bank where *piya*, a bamboo-like cane common around Charenton grows straight and tall. Jungle thick, the canebreak is shrouded in the shadows of twilight, even at noon. The air is always heavy, close and thick with mosquitoes. Stalks with the longest joints are selected and taken home, where they are kept damp until splitting time. For splitting, a round stalk is notched across one end with a sharp knife, then twisted with a wringing motion of both hands. The strips are split and split again until each one is about half an inch wide. The smooth outside layer is then peeled with the teeth from the pithy, white, inner layer. These peeled splits are placed in the dew for two weeks to bleach out the natural green color.

The cane is now ready for dying. Until recently the traditional red, black and yellow dyes were made from plants growing wild around the reservation. The splits were boiled for nine days in a solution of black walnuts and walnut leaves for a rich brownish-black color. For red, the root of the dock plant, called *la passiance*, was mashed and boiled. According to Ada, lime could be used to produce a soft yellow, traditionally a popular color for the single-weave baskets. Today, because of a scarcity of the natural dye plants, Ada turns to commercial fabric dye for a brighter, more permanent red and black. On the rare occasions when she does make a simple, single-weave basket, she substitutes undyed cane for the yellow strips, because she says commercial dyes produce too harsh a yellow.

After the colored strands have dried stiff and shiny, another layer is peeled off to produce a flexible, weavable strip. Each one can also be sized or split again, at this point, to achieve a suitable width for the basket in mind.

The most remarkable feature of Chitimacha basketry is the unique double-weaving process, which produces two baskets, woven one inside the other, sharing a single rim and showing no visible stopping or starting point of either basket. Like a single weave basket, it is woven from bottom to top, but upon reaching the rim, the cane is bent over and woven down the sides and across the bottom. The inner basket is constructed of undyed strips, while the exterior basket displays the glorious colored designs. Double-weave baskets are heavy, strong, durable and so tight they are rumored to hold water. Ada has never witnessed one filled with water and laughs at the old saying. Today it doesn't matter anyway; at the prices her customers pay, it's doubtful the art objects will be filled with anything, including water.

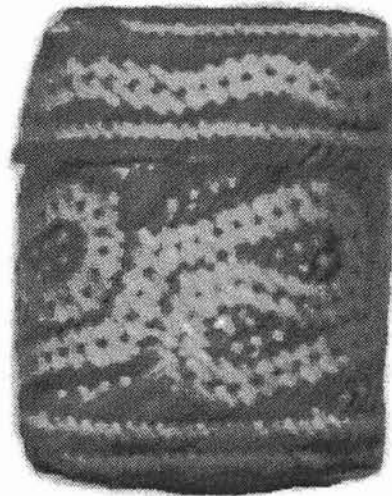
While the durability of the double weave is the joy of a basket owner, and its beauty and complexity are the envy of basket weavers, absolutely no knowledge of basketry is needed to enjoy the designs. More reminiscent of woven fabric figures than of the generally static, over-and-under patterns of other baskets. Chitimacha designs faithfully mimic the living creatures they symbolize. Little perch of undyed cane spurt like startled minnows through diagonal ripples of red and black water. Somber cow eyes march in pairs around the mid-section of a large covered basket. Patterns are often combined for artistic effect. One popular design features alligator entrails undulating horizontally across the basket while mouse tracks pitter-patter up, down, and around the rim and lid.

Black bird eyes, snakes, hearts, turtles - their origins have been lost for hundreds of years, but their importance to a rural society depending on nature for its subsistence is still obvious. So

symbolically important were these designs that the Chitimacha is the only tribe besides the North Carolina Cherokee to retain the symbol's names. Also lost with time is the reason for the exclusive use of those three eye-popping colors in Chitimacha basketry. Do they have religious significance? Were they the only locally available dye plants? And why did the Chitimacha women spend so much time executing the intricate designs? The durability of even undecorated double-weave baskets would have served their storage purposes and brought in high trade returns.

It is thought that their political and economic stability afforded the ancient Chitimacha much leisure time, time that was not needed for constructing housing or sewing clothing in Louisiana's mild climate. Therefore, they had the time and creative energy to make a simple household item into a work of art. Ada doesn't know how or when or why her baskets came to be. She only knows how to make them. And, so far, she is the last who knows."

\*Ada Thomas was one of sixteen Americans chosen to receive the Smithsonian's prestigious Heritage Award for 1983, for her work in preserving the arts and customs of Louisiana's Chitimacha Indians.



**Teaching Kids How to Eat Right  
At Home & At School  
By Leslie G. Fontenot, Dietitian**

**H**ealthy eating habits begin at home and can continue at school. It is vital for parents and schools to take an active role in teaching kids about healthy eating. The earlier your child is exposed to healthy eating messages, the more likely your child will take these healthier habits with them into adulthood. We can't rely on TV, fast food restaurants, or other kids to teach our kids about nutrition. We must take an active in modeling healthy eating habits.

The United States's Department of Agriculture's team nutrition offers the following suggestions for helping parents teach their kids about healthy eating..

1. Do lunch with the kids.  
Eat breakfast or lunch at school with your kids. See what the meals are like.
2. Know what's for lunch.  
Get a weekly menu of school meals. Talk to your child about the menu. Help your child make healthy selections. Ask your child what they ate and whether they enjoyed the food item or meal. Teach your child how to balance out their day's intake based on what was eaten at lunch. For example, a high fat lunch might be balanced with a lighter, low fat supper or vice versa.
3. Listen.  
Listen to what your kids are learning at school about good nutrition and help them put their knowledge to work at home. For example, if your child learned about food sources of iron, have the family members plan a supper menu with iron rich food sources.
4. Plant a seed.  
Show your kids and their friends where healthy food comes from. You may want to plant a very small window garden with your child and include some easy plants like parsley, onion tops, or some other herbs.
5. Throw a tasting party.  
Volunteer to organize either an class or home tasting party. Invite your child's friends over to try new foods.
6. Team up with the school food service staff and teachers.  
Visit the school cafeteria. Get to know the cafeteria staff and your child's teachers. Let them know you value their services and appreciated good daily nutrition and education for your child.

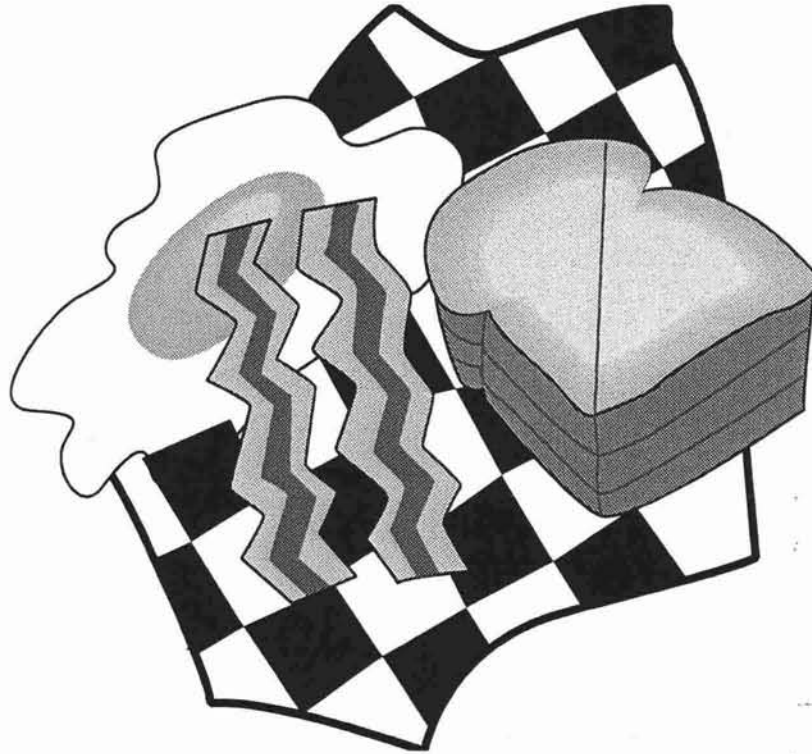
And finally, know that I (the dietitian) am definitely a resource to both you and your child. Please call me at the Health Department if I can be of any help in helping you teach your child healthy eating habits.

Also please mark your calendars for the "Wake Up to Diabetes Prevention" free diabetes screening and breakfast to be held on Wednesday, September 30, 1998 from 7-9:00 am in the Health Department building. We will be giving away free prizes, recipes and more to all who attend!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



# **WAKE UP TO DIABETES PREVENTION**

**Breakfast with the Health Department**



**When: Wednesday, September 30, 1998**

**Where: Chitimacha Health Department**

**Why: For Early Detection and Prevention of Diabetes**

**Time: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.**

***Please attend this fasting (Eat or Drink nothing after midnight)***

▶ ***Free Diabetes Screening***

▶ ***Free Recipes***

▶ ***Free Breakfast***

▶ ***Free Prizes for everyone  
who gets tested***

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
DIVISION OF NUTRITION ASSISTANCE  
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE SECTION

This is the public release that will be sent to Chitimacha Tribal Newsletter

Names of News Media Outlets

and NONE

Major Employers Contemplating Layoffs

on August, 1998 These groups must be advised of program availability, new programs, or changes  
Date

in existing programs.

Chitimacha Tribe of La. today announced its policy for free and reduced price meals served  
Local School Food Authority

under the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Program(s). All schools and the central office have a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The following family size and annual income criteria will be used for determining eligibility:

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

| Family Size                            | Free Meals | Reduced Price Meals |
|--|------------|---------------------|
| 1                                      | \$ 10,465  | \$ 14,893           |
| 2                                      | 14,105     | 20,073              |
| 3                                      | 17,745     | 25,253              |
| 4                                      | 21,385     | 30,433              |
| 5                                      | 25,025     | 35,613              |
| 6                                      | 28,665     | 40,793              |
| 7                                      | 32,305     | 45,973              |
| 8                                      | 35,945     | 51,153              |
| For each additional family member add: | +3,640     | +5,180              |

Children from families whose income level is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Application forms are being sent to all homes, along with a letter to households. To apply for free or reduced price meals, households should fill out an application for each child and return it to the school. If a multi-child application is used, complete one per household. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. The information provided by the household is confidential and will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility, and information may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program officials.

For the school officials to determine eligibility, households now receiving Food Stamps or *who* are on the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) must provide their Food Stamp case number or FITAP number as well as the signature of an adult household member. All other households must provide the following information on the application: names of all household members; the social security number of either the parent/guardian who is the primary wage earner or the adult household member *who* signs the application, or a statement that the household member does not possess one; the amount of income (before deductions for taxes, Social Security, etc.) each household member receives, how often the person receives it, and where it is from, such as wages, retirement, or welfare; and the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct

J:ZSWA1S1SFS#FGRMS1FR-1A.

Households that list a Food Stamp or FITAP case number must report when the household no longer receives these benefits. Other households approved for benefits based on income information must report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decreases in household size. Also, if a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for meal benefits.

Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court may be eligible for benefits. If a household has foster children, and wishes to apply for such meals for them, the household should contact the school for more information.

School Food Authorities that use direct *certification should* add the following paragraph with appropriate changes:

*Households that receive Food Stamps or FITAP do not have to complete an application. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from the Food Stamp/FITAP office which will certify that a child is a member of a household currently receiving Food Stamps or an assistance unit receiving FITAP. School officials will notify households of their eligibility and that the household must notify the school when it no longer receives Food Stamps or FITAP. Households who are notified of their eligibility but do not want their children to receive free meals must contact the school. Food Stamp and FITAP households should complete an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by June 29, 1998*

Date

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price policy, Dorothy Thompson

Title of Determining Official

will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. If the parent wishes to make a formal appeal, he may make a request either orally or in writing to:

Dorothy Thompson, 3613 Chitimacha Trail, Jeanerette, LA 70544 (318) 923-9960

| Name | Address | Phone Number |
|------|---------|--------------|
|------|---------|--------------|

The policy contains an outline of the hearing procedures.

In the operation of *child feeding programs* administered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, no *child will be discriminated* against because of race, color, sex, *national origin*, age or handicap. If members of a *household believe* they have been discriminated against, they *should* write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Revised 4/98

0ZS1F1VStSFS%F0RMS%FR-1A

**CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL  
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE  
SEPTEMBER 1998**

| <b>MONDAY</b>   | <b>TUESDAY</b>  | <b>WEDNESDAY</b>  | <b>THURSDAY</b>   | <b>FRIDAY</b>   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>August 31, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>French Toast, Juice & Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Lassaena, Tossed Salad, Fruit, Roll, Milk   | <b>September 1, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Oatmeal, Sausage Links, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Beef Stew w/Carrots & Potatoes, Rice, Fruit, Cake, Milk        | <b>September 2, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Chicken Fritters, Bun, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cookie, Milk               | <b>September 3, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Waffles, Ham, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Meatloaf, Parsley Potatoes, Corn on the Cob, Fruit, Roll, Milk     | <b>September 4, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Biscuits, Sausage, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Tuna Sandwich, Lettuce, Fruit, Chips, Milk            |
| <b>September 7, 1998</b><br><b>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</b>  | <b>September 8, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Grits, Sausage Links, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Tacos w/Shell, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cheese, Fruit, Cornbread, Milk | <b>September 9, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Cereal, Toast Sticks, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Chicken Stew w/Rice, Green Beans, Fruit, Roll, Milk                  | <b>September 10, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Blueberry Muffins, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Country Ribs, Rice Dressing, Pork & Beans, Fruit, Roll, Milk | <b>September 11, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Corn Dogs, French Fries, Salad, Fruit, Milk           |
| <b>September 14, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Pancakes, Sausage Links, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Chili Corn Chips, Cheese Sticks, Oranges & Bananas, Salad, Cornbread, Milk | <b>September 15, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Eggs, Toast, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Red Beans w/Rice, Sausage, Tossed Salad, Grapes, Roll, Milk              | <b>September 16, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Cereal, Toast Sticks, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Baked Chicken, Spagetti w/Cheese, Salad, Pineapple & Cherries, Milk | <b>September 17, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Breakfast Pizza, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Beef Tips w/Gravy, Rice, Creamed Corn, Peaches, Roll, Milk     | <b>September 18, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Biscuits, Sausage, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Ham Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Oranges, Cookie, Milk |
| <b>September 21, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Oatmeal, Sausage, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Spagetti w/Ground Beef, Sweet Peas, Pineapple, Roll, Milk                         | <b>September 22, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Cheese Toast, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Oven Fried Pork Chops, Rice Dressing, Salad, Watermelon, Milk           | <b>September 23, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Cereal, Hash Browns, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Chicken Tenders, Creamed Potatoes, Fresh Apples, Cookie, Roll, Milk  | <b>September 24, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Donuts, Ham, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Shrimp Stew w/Rice, Potato Salad, Grapes, Roll, Milk               | <b>September 25, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Pizza, Salad, Fruit, Milk                             |
| <b>September 28, 1998</b><br><b>AMERICAN INDIAN DAY - SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>  | <b>September 29, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>English Muffin, Canadian Bacon, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>Hamburgers, French Fries, Salad, Raisins, Milk        | <b>September 30, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST:</b><br>Cereal, Cheese Sticks, Juice, Milk<br><b>LUNCH:</b><br>BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Strawberries, Roll, Milk                 |   |   |

**CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL  
SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**

**September 7th - Labor Day Holiday**  
**September 14th - Hand Out Mid-Nine Weeks Reports**  
**September 15th - Early Release 1:00 P.M. - Teacher In-Service**  
**September 21st through 25th - ISEP Count Week**  
**September 28th - American Indian Day Holiday**



**CHITIMACHA SENIOR PROGRAM CALENDAR  
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE  
SEPTEMBER 1998**

| <b>MONDAY</b>  | <b>TUESDAY</b>   | <b>WEDNESDAY</b>  | <b>THURSDAY</b>  | <b>FRIDAY</b>   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b>AUGUST 31, 1998</b><br>Red Beans, Rice,<br>Sausage,<br>Asparagus, Rolls,<br>& Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo              | <b>SEPT. 1, 1998</b><br>Field Peas, Rice,<br>Smothered Steak,<br>Salad, Rolls, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo         | <b>SEPT. 2, 1998</b><br><br><b>OFFICE<br/>CLOSED -<br/>HURRICANE<br/>EARL</b><br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo  | <b>SEPT. 3, 1998</b><br>Meatloaf, Macaroni<br>n/Cheese, Corn,<br>Rolls, & Dessert<br><br>Activity: Shopping                            | <b>SEPT. 4, 1998</b><br>Tuna Fish, Salmon<br>Patties, Salad, &<br>Dessert                   |
| <b>SEPT. 7, 1998</b><br><br><b>LABOR DAY<br/>OFFICE CLOSE</b><br><br>Activity: None  | <b>SEPT. 8, 1998</b><br>Fried Chicken,<br>Cream Potatoes,<br>Sweet Peas, Salad,<br>Rolls, & Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo | <b>SEPT. 9, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Smothered<br>Meatballs, Rice,<br>Field Peas, Rolls,<br>Salad, & Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo      | <b>SEPT. 10, 1998</b><br>Pork Roast, Rice,<br>Lima Beans,<br>Broccoli n/<br>Cauliflower, Rolls,<br>& Dessert<br><br>Activity: Shopping | <b>SEPT. 11, 1998</b><br>Shrimp Stew, Rice<br>Salad, Rolls, &<br>Dessert                    |
| <b>SEPT. 14, 1998</b><br>Baked Chicken,<br>Parsley Potatoes,<br>Corn, Rolls, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo             | <b>SEPT. 15, 1998</b><br>White Beans, Rice,<br>Pork Ribs,<br>Asparagus, Rolls,<br>& Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo         | <b>SEPT. 16, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Groundmeat<br>Spaghetti, Garlic<br>Bread, Salad, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo               | <b>SEPT. 17, 1998</b><br>Beef Stew, Rice,<br>Corn, Salad, Rolls,<br>& Dessert<br><br>Activity: Shopping                                | <b>SEPT. 18, 1998</b><br>Fried Fish, Hush<br>Puppies, Salad,<br>Rolls & Dessert             |
| <b>SEPT. 21, 1998</b><br>Grilled Pork<br>Chops, Baked<br>Potatoes, Cabbage,<br>Rolls, & Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo       | <b>SEPT. 22, 1998</b><br>Beef Roast, Rice,<br>Green Beans,<br>Salad, Rolls, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo            | <b>SEPT. 23, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Chicken Stew,<br>Rice, White Beans,<br>Cabbage, Rolls, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: RegBingo          | <b>SEPT. 24, 1998</b><br>Brisket, Macaroni n<br>Cheese, Corn,<br>Salad Rolls, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: Shopping                   | <b>SEPT. 25, 1998</b><br><br><b>OFFICE<br/>CLOSED</b><br><br><b>AMERICAN<br/>INDIAN DAY</b> |
| <b>SEPT. 28, 1998</b><br>Fried Pork Chops,<br>Spaghetti n Cheese,<br>Corn, Salad, Rolls,<br>& Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo | <b>SEPT. 29, 1998</b><br>Grilled Chicken,<br>Baked Potato,<br>Green Beans,<br>Rolls, & Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo      | <b>SEPT. 30, 1998</b><br><b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Meatballs<br>w/Tomato Gravy,<br>White Beans,<br>Squash, Rolls, &<br>Dessert<br><br>Activity: Lil Bingo | <b>OCT. 1, 1998</b><br>Red Beans, Rice,<br>Smothered<br>Steak, Asparagus,<br>Rolls, & Dessert<br><br>Activity: Shopping                | <b>OCT. 2, 1998</b><br>Hot Dogs, Veggie<br>Tray, Chips, &<br>Dessert                        |

**SEPTEMBER 1998 BIRTHDAYS**

*Vincent Darden*

9/3

*Georgia Magee*

9/2

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU AND HAVE MANY MORE!!**

## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

### NOTICE

Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries

#### Hunter Safety Class

Franklin Recreation Center

October 13, 14, & 15, 1998

5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Registration will take place on October 13,  
1998 at the Recreation Center

No charge for the classes

### ATTENTION

The Health Department has a limited  
number of Chemstrips that can be  
provided free of charge to tribal members  
who have diabetes. The Health

Department does have certain  
requirements for eligibility. Supplies are  
limited...so call Pat at 923-9955 and get  
the details!

### NOTICE!!!

#### DR. DEGEYTER'S CLIENTS!!!

In order to receive your prescriptions from Pequot, you must **mail** in the original prescription from Dr. Degeyter. Pequot will no longer be able to fill medications without the original prescriptions. You may phone in refills if your prescription is current. If your prescription has expired and no longer has refills then you must get a written prescription from Dr. Degeyter and mail it in. If you have any questions, please call Pat @ the Health Department at 923-9955.

